

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Polynomial Operations SOLUTION (version 158)

1. Let polynomials  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  be defined below.

$$p(x) = 8x^5 - 6x^3 + 9x^2 - 4x - 10$$

$$q(x) = 4x^5 + 10x^4 - 7x^3 + 6x - 9$$

Express the sum of  $p(x) + q(x)$  in standard form.

Get “unsimplified” forms. Then find  $p(x) + q(x)$  with addition/subtraction.

$$p(x) = (8)x^5 + (0)x^4 + (-6)x^3 + (9)x^2 + (-4)x^1 + (-10)x^0$$

$$q(x) = (4)x^5 + (10)x^4 + (-7)x^3 + (0)x^2 + (6)x^1 + (-9)x^0$$

$$p(x) + q(x) = (12)x^5 + (10)x^4 + (-13)x^3 + (9)x^2 + (2)x^1 + (-19)x^0$$

$$p(x) + q(x) = 12x^5 + 10x^4 - 13x^3 + 9x^2 + 2x - 19$$

2. Let polynomials  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  be defined below.

$$a(x) = 6x^2 + 3x - 7$$

$$b(x) = 5x + 9$$

Express the product  $a(x) \cdot b(x)$  in standard form.

You can use a table for multiplication.

*	$6x^2$	$3x$	$-7$
$5x$	$30x^3$	$15x^2$	$-35x$
$9$	$54x^2$	$27x$	$-63$

$$a(x) \cdot b(x) = 30x^3 + 15x^2 + 54x^2 - 35x + 27x - 63$$

Combine like terms.

$$a(x) \cdot b(x) = 30x^3 + 69x^2 - 8x - 63$$

3. Express  $(x + 1)^5$  in standard (expanded) form.

Remember [the binomial theorem](#). It tells us to use Pascal’s triangle.

$$x^5 + 5x^4 + 10x^3 + 10x^2 + 5x + 1$$

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4. Let polynomials  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  be defined below.

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 15x - 10 \\g(x) &= x - 5\end{aligned}$$

The quotient of  $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  can be expressed as a polynomial,  $h(x)$ , and a remainder,  $R$  (a real number).

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = h(x) + \frac{R}{x-5}$$

By using synthetic division or long division, express  $h(x)$  in standard form, and find the remainder  $R$ .

I prefer using synthetic division.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}5 & 2 & -7 & -15 & -10 \\ & & 10 & 15 & 0 \\ \hline & 2 & 3 & 0 & -10\end{array}$$

So,

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 2x^2 + 3x + \frac{-10}{x-5}$$

In other words,  $h(x) = 2x^2 + 3x$  and the remainder is  $R = -10$ .

5. Let polynomial  $f(x)$  still be defined as  $f(x) = 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 15x - 10$ . Evaluate  $f(5)$ .

You could do this the hard way.

$$\begin{aligned}f(5) &= (2) \cdot (5)^3 + (-7) \cdot (5)^2 + (-15) \cdot (5) + (-10) \\ &= (2) \cdot (125) + (-7) \cdot (25) + (-15) \cdot (5) + (-10) \\ &= (250) + (-175) + (-75) + (-10) \\ &= -10\end{aligned}$$

Or, if you reference the [polynomial remainder theorem](#), you can state that you know  $f(5)$  equals the remainder when  $f(x)$  is divided by  $x - 5$ . Thus,  $f(5) = -10$ .